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Our File No. 9281/4588
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Naoya Hasegawa et al.)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
Filing Date: Herewith)
For GMR Magnetic Sensing Element)
Provided with Second Free Layer)
Extended to Outside of Track Width)
and Method for Manufacturing the)
Same)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1-A2 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication Nos. 10-124823 and 2000-293822 disclose an example in which a free layer is extended to the outside of Tw.

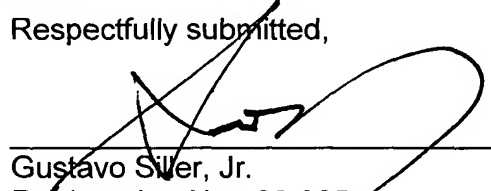
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally

determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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